

# The Sun

AND NEW YORK PRESS.

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The Presidency.

If it were the job of THE SUN to suggest to the Democratic party the man who, in the absence of Mr. Wilson's candidacy, might prove a standard bearer to be reckoned with by the opposition party in 1920 it would name FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, the brilliant young Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

But since it is not THE SUN's job to do this it will not so presume as to make the suggestion. Indeed, the same sense of delicacy in matters Presidential that THE SUN maintains in respect to a Republican candidate it scrupulously holds with regard to a Democratic candidate.

Our Humiliation in Russia.

The humiliating situation in which the United States has been placed by President Wilson's treatment of the Russian problem is vividly exposed by the request of the Omsk, or All Russian, Government, that our troops in Siberia make no advance from the positions they now hold, because such an advance might imperil the friendly relations existing between this country and the Russian enemies of Bolshevism. This danger arises from the "American Government"—that is, Woodrow Wilson's—"undefined stand" toward the murderous autocracy of LENIN and TROTSKY.

To this situation we owe the proclamation issued at Vladivostok by Major-General GRAVES yesterday, emphasizing the Administration policy with respect to Russian affairs.

The Omsk Government represents the stable elements of Russia—the Russians who, handicapped by a Government certainly incompetent and corrupt, possibly manipulated by traitors, for three years fought with splendid courage under the most adverse conditions against the German armies. The Bolsheviki represent every element in Russia that is abhorrent to American ideals and opposed to American institutions. Yet the respectable Russians are so suspicious of Woodrow Wilson's attitude toward Bolshevism that they cannot welcome us to help them in their campaign to establish freedom and order.

The suspicion that America is lukewarm in its opposition to Bolshevism and that Americans do not want to see the Lenin-Trotsky autocracy crushed does a gross injustice to the United States, but the loyal Russians cannot be severely blamed for harboring it. President Wilson's conduct has invited it. The mystery of his attitude toward prostrate Russia has afforded ground for any fantastic belief concerning our purpose in Russia any individual cares to harbor.

In the Archangel district American soldiers are fighting Bolsheviki soldiers; our troops under Major-General GRAVES in Siberia are supposed to be cooperating with the anti-Bolsheviki Russians; but in Paris Mr. Wilson consciously or unconsciously has been playing into the Bolsheviki hand and by his personal diplomacy giving the lie to the military expeditions operating under him as Commander in Chief. He fathered and advocated the Princes Islands conference, inviting honest and loyal Russians to meet the Bolsheviki assassins and anarchists; he despatched emissaries to the Bolsheviki, apparently in the hope that a basis of agreement with the apostles of anarchy involving nothing worse than the compounding of felony might be found; he allows Bolsheviki agents in the United States to carry on their propaganda freely. Under these circumstances it would be unjust to censure the Omsk Government and the people it speaks for when they confess they regard our policy toward Bolshevism in Russia as "undefined."

While President Wilson has been creating this feeling of distrust in the minds of sane and respectable Russians the French and English have followed another course. If LOYD GEORGE was at any time willing to parley with the Bolsheviki he carefully avoided responsibility for the advances made to them. For the Princes Islands proposal he let Mr. Wilson have full credit or discredit. The ambassadors to LENIN and

TROTSKY he treated with lightness tinged with contempt. The French have maintained unflinching opposition to the recognition of the Bolsheviki. In the rebuilding of Russia, in the progress and prosperity that will be Russia's when anarchy has been put down and sanity attains control of the country, these things will be remembered by the Russians.

Mr. Wilson's Pies for Law Taxes.

A sardonic grin must have played on President Wilson's lips while he wrote into his message his remarks on needed tax legislation. He asks the new Congress to make our taxes more simple and easy of administration, as well as less burdensome.

Mr. Wilson must have realized that, while a Congress of business sense and economic enlightenment might adopt a sane and sound tax system beyond the desire and the comprehension of a muddled and vindictive Kitchin Congress, nevertheless the post mortem paying of the very expenditures of Mr. Wilson's own Government—the results of its legislative and administrative reckless excesses—could put the biggest and the hardest kind of job up to the new Congress.

We all want and we all expect the economic crudities, imbeddities and atrocities of KREMER to be swept out of the Federal tax laws. We all count on the elimination of the petty, exasperating exactions which have pestered the public without yielding any worth while revenue to the Treasury. We all await with confidence income tax schedules and profit tax schedules which can be worked out by the average business man without the aid of a staff of high priced lawyers and accountants. We all look to see the nonsense of luxury taxes that win the applause of the Bolsheviki but do not pay the Government's overdue bills go into the discard.

But when all is said and done, the new Congress—the Republican Congress to which Mr. Wilson now appeals for financial rescue—has got to raise billions of dollars to clean up prodigious bills incurred but not settled by Mr. Wilson's administration of the United States Government before the war ended. It has got to raise billions of dollars to cover the colossal expenditures of Mr. Wilson's administration of the United States Government since the war ended. It has got to raise billions of dollars to take care of the cost of Mr. Wilson's administration of the United States Government to the end of its term.

Mr. Wilson has been an absentee President for many months. Confessedly—read it in his message—he has paid so little attention to the affairs of this great nation that he cannot discuss any of them in detail. He cannot discuss anything in detail except his League of Nations and his other foreign plans, aims and ideas. But, little thought as he has given to his own country throughout those long months, he cannot be unaware of the billions of dollars which have been pouring over the national dam since he gave up his functions but not his title as Chief Magistrate of the nation. Billions of dollars to be raised out of the American people—"the taxes themselves as little burdensome as they can be made"—by a Congress which never spent a penny of it!

Yes, writing those paragraphs on simple, sound, low taxes Mr. WILSON must have smiled the smile of the cat which swallowed the canary.

Let the Senate Pass the Woman Suffrage Amendment.

The new Republican House of Representatives has wasted no time in passing the equal suffrage amendment to the Constitution.

It is now the duty of the Senate, where the amendment failed in the last session, to follow the example of the House, and with the same speed. The justice of the amendment is obvious. There is no need for oratory on the subject.

When the Senate has taken affirmative action Congress will have one important piece of legislation off its hands.

Lessons of the Navy Flight.

Not until Commander TOWERS and Lieutenant - Commanders READ and BELLINGHAM have made technical reports to the Navy Department on the behavior of the Navy-Curtiss seaplanes shall we know exactly the strengths and weaknesses of these craft. What appears now to be the fact is that in a general way the seaplanes are good; that they have vindicated a large degree the designers and the builders. It is doubtful whether even the most sanguine expected that 100 per cent. service would be given in such a severe test. A flight of one hundred or five hundred miles does not indicate what an air machine will do when pressed to go a thousand miles or more.

It is true that all three of the seaplanes, at one time or another, failed the men who were in them. Serious failure can be read in the history of only one of them, the NC-1, which was not able to make port after her forced landing in the sea near the Azores; and even in the case of BELLINGHAM's craft it must be remembered that her total mileage on the three legs was 2,100, and that she was wrecked under unusually unfavorable weather conditions.

The performance of the NC-3 was in a way a remarkable demonstration of the general soundness of the design. TOWERS was forced to the water not because of any mechanical defect but because in exceptionally bad weather, totally unexpected, the flagship, short of gasoline, came down from the fog to get its bearings. "The

plane was damaged as it reached the water," Commander TOWERS reports, "and was unable to rise." Perhaps that experience, while it might not have been met in fair weather, will be remedied. The triumph in the case of TOWERS's seaplane was that he was able to reach land unassisted.

That the shock of a forced landing is not necessarily destructive to an NC's immediate usefulness was clearly proved by engine trouble to come down 100 miles off Chatham. All his ship needed was a new engine, and a few days later off went the Four to continue the flight which was so eminently successful.

Each of the Yankee air skippers had his own particular experience, and when these experiences are collated it is likely that every weak point developed in this terrific test can be cured. There seems to be no reason why in a year or so a seaplane should not set out for Europe with every likelihood of its getting there on one or the other of the elements which it is designed to ride.

Two Battleships.

The Navy Department opened bids yesterday for the construction of two battleships authorized by Congress in 1916. Two companies sought the contracts, one promising delivery in forty-four months, the other in forty-five months. If the building of these vessels is authorized now they will be in commission practically seven years from the time when authority was given to add them to the fleet.

That a battleship was obsolescent when it took the water was recognized before the war in Europe began. What the future holds for this type of war vessel nobody dares to say. The development of aerial warfare has been amazingly rapid in the last five years. The progress made in submarine work has been equally great. The success of battle cruisers has been notable. Whether battleships laid down in 1919 will be of any use when they are completed in 1923 is a problem naval experts must guess about.

Through the necessities of the war the naval programme of the United States was knocked askew. The building of capital ships was seriously impeded by the concentration of all available resources on vessels of other types. What the nation's naval programme is now, if we have any, is in dire need of explanation.

Get the Railroads Back.

President Wilson says the railroads will be handed over to their owners at the end of the calendar year. Senator CUMMINS says they will be in the meantime Congress has passed the necessary railway legislation; otherwise not.

The thing to do is to get the roads back. Legislation or not, it is hard to see how the roads could possibly be in any worse situation than they are now. The Government is not advancing them the money it promised to advance for either general or specific financing. The Government has stripped some of them of their work-in-progress capital. The Government has cleaned out the petty cash drawers of some of them. The Government is not paying the rentals it owes. The Government isn't doing much of anything except to run the operating costs up the sky high, while the traffic falls and the deficits become appalling.

This does not mean, of course, that Congress should not do the right thing for the railroads, the right thing for those who use them, and the right thing for the country which is dependent upon them. There is plenty of time, moreover, in which to do it. But failing such legislation in five months, six months or seven months, the roads could not be worse off—they might well be better off—back in the hands of their owners pending the measure to put them firmly on their feet. And the country would be better off.

Private management could at least cut useless expenditures—something Government operation has not done. Private management could handle traffic more expeditiously—something Government operation has not done. Private management could better the whole service—something Government operation has not done. Private management could do railroading—something Government operation has not done.

In the assumption that the traffic rates would not be lowered if the roads went back to their owners it would be better to have the transfer made to-day than months from now. Every day that they remain under Government operation makes the American transportation system sicker. Every day that their return is postponed makes the future work of redeeming them all the harder.

The railroads of the United States under Government operation are in such desperate straits—in such straits because they are under Government operation—that the only worse thing that could happen to them would be to stay there.

Get them out!

The Budget System.

That the United States has needed a budget system for the intelligent preparation of appropriation bills has been recognized by all students of Government affairs for a generation. Senator ALDRICH of Rhode Island asserted that the expenditures of the Government could be reduced by a third without impairment of its service. Waste, duplication of work and unnecessary activities consume vast sums of money, which cannot be checked against each other as long as a dozen committees of the Con-

gress and the representatives of all the executive departments have their hands in the preparation of the appropriation bills.

There is no argument about the desirability of a budget system, a system of centralized control over requests for appropriations, a more intensive scrutiny of the appeals made by the departments for money. The only questions which arise grow out of differing conceptions of the manner in which this reform should be accomplished. Representative GOON, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, has already introduced a bill on the subject; others will be sure to follow his example.

Mr. GOON's bill would create a Bureau of Budget in the office of the President, which would prepare the estimates of the executive departments and send them to the Secretary of the Treasury, by whom they would be transmitted, without change, to Congress. The budget would show the expected revenues as well as recommended appropriations, and Congress would assume a comprehensive duty of audit and control as a matter of routine. The President, as Chief Executive, would bear the responsibility for the budget. This in itself would be a great step forward from the present practice, under which so many officials share the responsibility. It may fairly be said no single individual can be held to account.

It will be seen that this proposed system in no way trespasses on the constitutional function of the Congress with regard to appropriation bills. It is not sought by indirection or subterfuge to clip the power of the House, in which all revenue acts must originate. The obligation of the members to study the bills would not be reduced. They would merely be put in a position to make that study effective. A budget bureau would merely classify, arrange and expose the details of proposed appropriations and thus enable the legislators to act with better comprehension than they can now possess.

It may be that Mr. GOON's bill is not perfect, but it points the way to a reform never so urgently demanded as it now is. The enormous expenses the Government must meet for years to come make enlightened economy imperative, and a budget system will go far to reveal where savings can be made.

The War Department Discovers That Americans Eat.

The War Department is reported to have changed its mind about "trying to find markets abroad" for the millions of cans of meat and vegetables which it no longer needs. Somebody evidently whispered to the Department that a country of the Western Hemisphere widely known as the United States of America has one hundred million persons who like to eat two or three times a day, and who would be glad to see the canned food put on the market here and subjected to the good old law of supply and demand.

To send this canned stuff, which amounts approximately to 200,000,000 pounds of meat—ten pounds for each family—and 100,000,000 cans of vegetables, to Europe for the purpose of "preventing a break in the market" would be as absurd and wicked as the Government's failure to remove the artificial prop of a guaranteed price for wheat. Putting the War Department's surplus supplies on the American market will of course have no such beneficial effect on the prices of all necessities as would be produced by returning wheat to a fair price; but it would do a great deal of good among the people who have been so badly plied by the cost of food—the people whose increase of income has not been commensurate with the increase of their meat and grocery bills.

As far as "breaking the market" is concerned, only an artificial market could be broken by adding to the general supply what would amount to four or five pounds of food for each head of population.

To the NC-4 all America cries: "Carry on! To Plymouth!"

For a doughnut a dollar may seem "a lot of dough," but not half as much as the doughnut seemed to the hungry soldier in France.

In last analysis the real advantage in the repeal of war time prohibition is regards light wines and beers. The possibility of still one more New Year's resolution.

Demobilization continues, now accelerated, but there is no report that one of the first to enlist in war's ranks, H. H. Davis, has yet been discharged from the service.

That deeds of peace are no less renowned, heroic and daring than those of war the history of the recent past will attest. After perceiving for four years the golden grain of valor and reckless courage dotting the red fabric of war the world now witnesses a purely peaceful adventure in man's conquest of the natural forces which require heroism as high as any shown in battle.

A Query Involving a Canvass of Two Billion Persons.

To the Editor of THE SUN—Sir: Who is the most unknown man in the world?

NEW YORK, May 21.

Answer and Grieve.

They dared all mortal odds, All hazards that might be, Against the very gods, They flew across the sea.

Dark doom denied their deed, Their great hopes forfeited, But others shall succeed, And follow where they led.

They join the noble tale, The shining company Of conquerors who fell, That victory may be.

McLARDEN WILSON.

SCHENECTADY WILL ACT.

Bolshevism Has No Chance of Growth in That American City.

To the Editor of THE SUN—Sir: In THE SUN of May 16 is a letter signed "An American Woman" referring to the activities of Bolshevist agents. My attention has been attracted to this portion of her letter: "That the minister of the Baptist church and the rector of one of the Episcopal churches were in favor of the Bolshevist movement; that they had a large following in Schenectady and other places." A casual reader might see in that letter an implied connection between the Bolshevist movement in Schenectady and a rector of one of the Schenectady Episcopal churches. I am therefore observing:

First, Schenectady is a healthy, progressive, God-fearing American city of over 100,000 people, who are quite capable of handling this Bolshevist brazen-faced lie if it ever saw fit to invite trouble. The duty of American communities now is to organize sufficiently so as to handle immediately any difficulty that may arise and which might spread for lack of organized resistance. I know this city well enough to believe that it is not going to hold up its hands the moment the bewhiskered brute says "Boo!"

Second, "Episcopal rectors" are normally free from ultra-radicalism. Indeed they are usually classed among the conservative elements in our national life. Theirs is the station of the major prominently only because they are so rare. Last year one might associate me with the Bolshevist movement let me state that I have fought this thing and am continuing fighting it.

It is the most subtle, dangerous, insidious and reactionary force that has ever obtained itself in the life of the world. Its strength lies in its claws of which it has a plenty, rather than in its brains, of which it has but scant measure.

We have allowed the beast too much leeway already. It is cleverly organized and works by underground methods. But that the American people, and especially the alert, home-loving American workmen, will ever be carried away by its spirit of destructiveness and anarchy is to do gross injustice to their intelligence.

The remedy, however, is not to leave the thing free to act, but to organize in every community so as to make its progress impossible.

R. W. R. TAYLOR, Rector of St. George's Church and chairman of Rotary Americanization Committee.

SCHENECTADY, May 21.

BALD HEADS AT THE PLAY.

A Suggestion That These Wretches Be Made to Wear Wigs.

To the Editor of THE SUN—Sir: I agree with Mr. David Goode that men with bald heads should be forbidden from sitting in the front rows at the theatre. Of course these shabby domes attract the chorus girls, who are fascinated with men whose strong and active brains stimulate a luxuriant growth of hair that can be brushed back in waving pompadour. Then, too, bald heads in summer are a nuisance to every one, as they are playgrounds for flies.

Now is the time, the Congress is in session, to get this menace to the peace of the public mind regulated. Everybody is ready to help push anything along that is labelled "reform" or "uplift," and as bald heads are a national nuisance, an amendment to the Constitution compelling all men with bald heads to wear artificial wigs when attending the theatre is the latest way to do it.

JAMES D. DREWELL, Jr., New York, May 21.

TWO KINDS OF ISOLATION.

The One Which Threatens Us Is the Result of Mr. Wilson's Action.

To the Editor of THE SUN—Sir: One of the professed functions of the League of Nations is to end our national "isolation." There have been isolated nations in the past, and there will be isolated nations in the future. But the United States, as far back as the days of the Barbary pirates was playing her part in the world. The war with Spain brought her to the gates of Asia. Yet there are those who would ignore the distinction between interfering in disputes not our own and abdicating the independence to which our position entitles us.

What the League of Nations may achieve remains on the knees of the gods. What has been done at Paris to isolate America in a very real sense may be read of all men. When the President was elected practically the sole delegate to the Peace Conference the prestige of this country had never been greater. We had redeemed ourselves from the reproach which a craven neutrality had brought upon us. The final stages of the conflict had given us a right to speak. Europe looked upon us with admiration and respect. The United States, which the President received in France, in England, in Italy, was in effect an expression of confidence in the purity of American motives and the justice of American policy. Ordinary tact, ordinary generosity, would have made the friendship among the nations that won the war secure beyond attack.

What has happened since to change all this? Why is America misjudged, suspected, disliked? Why did our relations with France come to such a pass that the President threatened to withdraw the conference from Paris? Why did Italy leave the council table for a time with feelings of wounded pride? Why is there even in England free expression of resentment? There could be no worse isolation than this. It were far better to assume an attitude of indifference to the other peoples of the world than to become the object of bitter reproach or deep seated distrust.

The Italians, with the instinct of their natural political sagacity, have attempted to discriminate between America and her President—to place the responsibility for the denial of her rights on national aspirations upon him alone. But this is in a sense impossible. Whatever unpopularity he has won the country will inevitably share. He speaks for it officially, not the voices of his countrymen at home. The Italians know that the Senate has to be consulted, and they appreciate the position taken by Senator LODGE, as chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. Yet reason does not always avail when the hearts of men are swayed by passion.

What worse isolation could there be for America than to leave the conference without a whole-hearted friend among all the nations?

EDWARD FULLER, Philadelphia, May 21.

MR. BAKER WAS COMING.

A Military Display Outside the Pennsylvania Station Explained.

To the Editor of THE SUN—Sir: The other evening I landed home in New York on the Congressional Limited. Making my way out to the Seventh Avenue entrance of the Pennsylvania Station, I was confronted by a line of police officers and was directed to skirt the side of the station either north or south if I wished to avoid being turned back to use a side entrance. I was in a hurry to get home, and I really felt pleased at being inconvenienced somewhat in getting out of the station.

However, I asked a policeman, "What is the occasion?" He informed me that "Baker was coming in." I knew that "Baker" was coming in with the Tanques in the West, and concluded it must be some other Baker. I said "What Baker?" and the policeman replied, "Secretary Baker."

"Well, that was sort of a joke. I could not figure out why the streets should be filled with soldiers, standing stiffly upright, stiff as ramrods. Because an American official was coming to town, and I could not help realizing that this was where some of the money went that officials, ministers, actors, moving picture artists and the whole crowd of us had been ranting and champing for some weeks. Some of it must be used for just such objects as I was then seeing. In fact, much of it has been and is being used for just such objects."

Now as a plain matter of fact how could any one in this entire nation be benefited by such display? Here is a little fellow, who is perfectly safe in his life and property, drawing down the good cheer of the State as he passes for what he is doing, having the major say in expending billions of the money subscribed by the public, and still not satisfied. He must throw on a little more dog. He would not have been a nice thing for our little Secretary of War to have come into town as I did, on the Congressional Limited, or any other train, passed on through the station and taken a bus or a taxi and proceeded to his destination in New York?

This display reminded me so much of another display made by one of Mr. Wilson's appointees, who has just taken up the cause of the Bolsheviki, when going alone to a hall some two years ago in a United States motor car driven by a uniformed chauffeur in which he was enjoying himself, and preceded by a motorcycle officer, who tooted his horn and warned the common herd to one side so that he might roll along in solitary splendor.

Thank Heaven the time seems auspicious when we will call this herd: NEW YORK, May 21. ALBERT OLIVER.

LEAGUE PROPAGANDA.

A Georgia Lawyer Asks Senator Lodge to Discover Who Pays for It.

MY DEAR SENATOR—The Senate should appoint a committee to investigate the activities of the different agencies which have been able to secure so much space in certain newspapers for any and all things favorable to the proposed League of Nations and find out from what sources the money has been derived for the purpose of this propaganda. The furtherance of this un-American, patriotic and downright dishonest scheme for the surrendering of our sovereignty as a nation and the burdening of our people with the expense and responsibility of preserving the boundary lines of all the European countries now in existence and those yet proposed to be created.

The sending out of speakers and the great expenditure of money by the advocates of this scheme called a League of Nations is a menace, and the source of the money to further the scheme should be known. Many people believe that Germany is furnishing the money to try to have America adopt this scheme called a League of Nations.

Doubtless you will recall that Germany did issue a statement urging the United States to adopt the proposed League of Nations. It was a statement of a man with a reign of terror unless the proposed League of Nations was adopted.

E. S. FULLER, Savannah, Ga., May 17.

Honorable H. C. LODGE, United States Senator, Washington, D. C.

MAKING SUBWAYS EASY.

Electric Station Announces in the Cars Would Help.

To the Editor of THE SUN—Sir: There are so many new subways now that a traveler has almost a guide book to the station nearest his destination.

The announcements of stations by the subway conductors and guards are often unintelligible. Therefore why not eliminate the human factor and install mechanical means to assist the traveler in his journey?

How about installing an electric lighted list of stations at which the various trains stop at each end of every car, with the lighting arrangement so controlled that the next station on the route will be the only one illuminated? When that particular station has been reached and passed the following station would light up.

And wouldn't it be a good idea to install in each station a list of stations along the route of that particular system, so that those who ride may read?

NEW YORK, May 21. I. DANE.

Soldiers Who Don't Want Beer.

To the Editor of THE SUN—Sir: It has been my happy privilege to visit many of the camps and to talk to our soldiers, individually and collectively—a mainly bunch of young fellows—and I think it nothing short of libel to imply that all these soldiers want beer, and I wish to register a protest against such a lot of talk.

Many a "Christians" mother who has a good, clean boy in the service of his country must resent this insulting remark.

It is high time we showed greater respect to our brave boys.

E. A. CORRETT, Wall Street Evangelist, New York, May 21.

Anticipation.

Misses—Have you a reference from your last place?

Bridges—No, mum; I haven't taken my last place yet.

Opening the Season in the Old Dominion.

From the Front Royal Record.

"An Abundant" son was ploughing with the bay horse and the little white mare and we couldn't tell whether he was going or coming, so we set up stakes and slowly and saw he was coming, and very slowly he came, and he was ploughing. How much and Ges horse.

# MAURICE CASENAVE IS WELCOMED HERE

THE WEATHER

MINIATURE ALMANAC.  
Sun rises... 5:34 A.M. Sun sets... 4:12 P.M.  
Moon rises... 1:02 A.M.

New French Minister Guest of Honor at Luncheon of Marcel Knecht.

Melville E. Stone Says Ally Will Despise Us if We Fail Her Now.

WASHINGTON, May 21.—Low pressure prevails throughout the United States and Canada. Fair, mostly clear, with moderate winds, mostly east and southeast.

For New Jersey—Unsettled to-day; probably cloudy, probably showers in Maine to-morrow; moderate east winds.

For northern New England—Showers to-day; cloudy, probably showers in Maine to-morrow; moderate east winds.

For southern New England—Showers to-day; cloudy, probably showers in Maine to-morrow; moderate east winds.

For western New York—Unsettled to-day; probably cooler in east portion; fair to-morrow; moderate shifting winds.

WASHINGTON, May 21.—Low pressure prevails throughout the United States and Canada. Fair, mostly clear, with moderate winds, mostly east and southeast.

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